sider that members of the Bar also are equally, if not more, entitled to appointments in the judicial line. The efficiency of the service imperatively demands it. The sooner the Government changes its present policy in this matter, the better for the service and the litigant public.

Education.

Then I come to *Education*.

The present policy of the Government in the matter of primary education in particular, and secondary education in general, has to be modified to a very great extent. A large amount is being spent by the Government year after year for this purpose, but I regret I have to observe that the amounts are not spent with any great discrimination. The system of giving grant has engendered a spirit of commercial feeling in the matter of starting schools. Many a so-called Manager is running a school, because it is a course of gain to him, with no investment at all. This is highly undesirable. Schools should be allowed only in such a way as to prevent unwholesome competition. Private schools should not be allowed to detrimentally compete with each other and with Government institutions. Wherever there is such keen competition, the Government can gracefully and profitably withdraw.

Education should be nationalised. Wherever possible, vernacular should be made the medium of instruction. In the matter of prescribing text-books, the whole policy requires overhauling. When education has become so very costly, the Government should try to bring down the expenditure on books and instruments as far as possible. What is good as a text-book for one boy is considered to be bad for another. The underlying policy seems to be unintelligible. Again, where the Government has appointed an expert body to select text-books, it is a pity that that body's considered opinion is sometimes thrown to the winds without even assigning reasons therefor, and the Government does as it likes.

Sir, it is highly desirable that a Law College is started in the State. Financially it will be a success, the Government being able to lay by a substantial amount by way of surplus. It will prevent our Arts Graduates having to contribute to the income of the Travancore Darbar and the revenues of the Madras Government. There was a strong representation made to the present Government as regards the matter, and to satisfy the Government as to its prospective success, facts and figures were placed before them. The Government then promised to consider the matter favourably, but the Government seems to have entirely forgotten the matter.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Before I leave this Department of Education, may I bring to the notice of the Government that there is absolutely no justification for the Director of Public Instruction being inflicted with the management and control of other Departments. Now that the Government have made up their mind to allot a definite amount for the Uplift of the Depressed Classes, the whole Department has to be placed under the management of a full-time officer. In this connection, I may remind you, Sir, of the observations made by the Ex-Political Agent in the course of his speech, when conferring the Sanad and Badge of Rao Sahib on Mr. C. Matthai that the Darbar intend these functions hereafter (referring to the protection of the Depressed Classes) to occupy the full time of an officer, etc.

Forests and Tramways.

Sir, Tramway in our State was devised only as a means of exploiting the resources of the forests more effectively and cheaply. When you know that its usefulness has ceased to exist (as that seems to be the agreed view on all hands), there is absolutely no justification for allowing it to continue any further. The motives of the Government seem to be mysterious, and we, the people, are left in the dark as regards this matter, except the fact that the Government is determined to allow the Tramway to swallow a big sline of the Public Revenue. I am told that private bodies have offered to work the Tramway with profit to the Government. If that is a fact, I cannot understand why the Government should fight shy of the matter like this.

Medical.

Coming next to the *Medical Department*, I have to say that the General Hospital at Ernakulam is being organised and developed on too ambitious lines for the resources of the State. It is certainly one of the main duties of the Government to render medical aid to its suffering subjects. But this must have its limitations. When we compare our General Hospital with those existing in the Sister States of Mysore and Travancore, we can certainly find that our General Hospital is too big for the resources of the State. Year after year extensions and additions are being made. New sites are acquired or proposed to be acquired, and that out of all proportion to the legitimate requirements of the people. It is stated that more than half the number of people, who derive any medical relief from our State, are non-Cochinites. This is undesirable as even in medicine, charity must begin at home. This Department tries to concentrate all its energies and resources in the General Hospital itself. The other institutions are practically ignored. It is high time for the Government to make the Civil Hospital at Trichur a more useful institution. If any development is neces-

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly